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POPULATION TODAY™

Vol. 13, No. 3 March 1985

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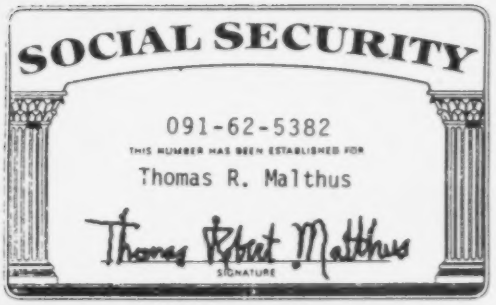

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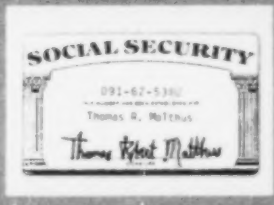
SPECIAL DEMOGRAPHER'S PAGE

Social Security and The Demographic Iceberg

by Robert J. Myers

Robert J. Myers has served as the Chief Actuary, Social Security Administration, 1947-1970; Deputy Commissioner, Social Security Administration, 1981-1982; and Executive Director, National Commissioner, National Commission on Social Security Reform, 1982-1983.

Remember the Social Security crisis of several years ago? At the time, actuarial cost estimates projected both short-term and long-term problems for the U.S.'s basic retirement income system, the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Program (OASDI).*



After a considerable amount of public debate, amendments to the U.S. Social Security Act were enacted in 1983 to take care of those problems, and leave the system on a sound footing for at least several decades to come. Nonetheless, widespread concern continues as to whether the problem was truly solved, or (conversely) whether the system is now actually overfinanced.

Measuring Financial Health

OASDI's short range financial status (i.e., over the next 5-10 years) is measured in the following way: The estimated balance of the combined Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance trust funds at the beginning of the year is expressed as a percentage of the outgo therefrom during the next 12 months. Obviously, this ratio must always be positive (and in practice, at least 8 percent) in order to assure prompt payment of benefits. Ideally, for there to be an adequate contingency "cushion," the ratio should be at least 50 percent.

At the beginning of 1985, this ratio was 24 percent (compared with 21 percent a year earlier). In recent years this ratio had been falling precipitously, but the 1983 amendments reversed the slide, and the ratio is projected to continue increasing in the near future, according to projections.[1] Thus, we can say that the short-range financial health of OASDI has been greatly improved and is very likely excellent.

The long-range financial status of the system is measured by a comparison over a 75-year period of the average annual OASDI income rate† (expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll) with the average outgo, or cost rate (also expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll). The cost rate is determined separately for each year, and the 75 values are then averaged; for the next 75 years, according to the intermediate-cost estimate, the cost rate is projected to be 13.0 percent of payroll.

Continued on page 6

*This paper will consider only OASDI, which is the part of Social Security that pays monthly cash benefits to retired and disabled workers and their spouses and children and to surviving spouses and children of deceased workers and retirees. The Hospital Insurance (HI) portion of Medicare, another part of Social Security, has a separate trust fund and its own set of financing problems, which are projected to endanger its solvency starting in about five to 10 years.

†Including estimated receipts from the income taxation of benefits.

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'The Elusive Exodus' of U.S. Citizens: 100,000 Emigrate Each Year

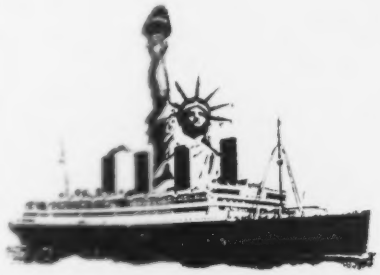
The waves of immigration that have swept the United States during its history have been welcomed, decried, legislated, and regulated, but have always been the focus of public attention. Meanwhile, a smaller, but hardly insignificant tide of emigration has been quietly taking place; while it has been counted during some periods, for the most part emigration out of the U.S. has been ignored.

Piecing together data from a handful of different sources, demographers Robert Warren of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and Ellen Percy Kraly of Colgate University have assembled a statistical sketch of U.S. emigration for PRB's latest edition in the *Population Trends and Public Policy* series, "The Elusive Exodus: Emigration from the United States."

Their conclusions come as a surprise to many: Since the turn of the century the ratio of immigration to emigration has been 3-to-1. The 30 million legal immigrants the U.S. has admitted between 1900 and 1980 must be balanced against 10 million emigrants who left to settle elsewhere.

It is less than surprising that a number of former immigrants left disillusioned, or chose to retire in the "old country," or moved on to unexplored Canadian frontiers. More startling are the recent trends in U.S. citizen emigration that Warren and Kraly identified. Combing foreign immigration data, the authors found that the trend of U.S.-citizen emigration gained momentum during the 1960s and remained steady during the 1970s. Warren and Kraly report that more than 100,000 U.S. citizens are counted as immigrants to other countries each year.

Where are these U.S. citizens going? Only rough estimates exist, but it appears that more than one-third reside in neighboring Canada and Mexico. Another third are believed to live in Europe, mainly Italy, Germany and the United Kingdom. About one-sixth are concentrated in Asia, with the largest numbers in the Middle East, mainly Israel and Egypt.



Warren and Kraly stress that much more information is needed on emigration. Since the INS discontinued collecting emigration data in 1957, estimates of emigration have been used and these estimates have been low. Currently, the Census Bureau estimates emigration at 40,000 a year. The Census Bureau's analysis of the 1980 census, however, used emigration figures of 160,000 per year for the decade of the 1970s.

To illustrate the magnitude of recent emigration trends, Warren and Kraly isolated the decade of the 1970s and compared the number of non-U.S. citizen emigrants (former U.S. immigrants leaving the United States who did not become naturalized citizens) to the number of undocumented immigrants counted in the 1980 census. In the Census Bureau's evaluation of the 1980 census these two flows were of roughly the same dimension—1.2 million non-U.S. citizen emigrants vs. 1.5 million undocumented immigrants. While the accuracy of both these figures has been questioned, the comparison suggests that emigration is a significant aspect of U.S. population dynamics—one that has been given too little attention to date.

Of what use would more detailed information on emigration be? Warren and Kraly suggest several applications, including:

Immigration policy. An understanding of emigration would allow the United States to institute yearly levels of immigration based on net rather than gross immigration. A "revolving door" policy could be set up whereby extra immigrants could be admitted for non-U.S. citizen emigrants who chose to leave.

Population estimates. Agencies of the state and federal government as well as private businesses rely heavily on population estimates in their planning and budgeting. Data on emigration would enhance the accuracy of national population estimates.

To find out the hows, whys, whos, and wheres of U.S. emigration in an efficient and cost-effective manner, Warren and Kraly suggest adding questions on emigration to existing population surveys.

Finally, say Warren and Kraly, more information on emigration has the potential to turn upside down common thought on the topic of international migration. "The facts appear to contradict the notion that everyone wants to come to the United States and no one wants to leave," they say. □

"The Elusive Exodus: Emigration from the United States," a *PRB Population Trends and Public Policy* paper, 16 pages, can be ordered for $3.00 ea. (2-10 copies, $2.30 ea.; 11-50 copies, $1.90 ea.; 51 or more, $1.50.) Handling charges: Inside the U.S., add $1.00 for each order; outside the U.S. add 25 percent to the cost of the order. Orders of $20.00 and under must be prepaid. Send order and remittance to Circulation Dept., PRB, P.O. Box 35012, Washington, D.C. 20013. Checks payable to PRB.

Immigration Reform: Up from the Ashes?

Legislative action on immigration reform is expected to proceed slowly during early 1985. President Reagan, in his State of the Union address Feb. 6, conspicuously made no mention of immigration, a signal that the Administration is playing it safe on this sensitive political issue and has not staked out a clear policy position. Without strong presidential support, some observers feel that any new immigration initiative will remain bogged down in the congressional process.

Sen. Alan Simpson, (R-Wyo.) and Rep. Romano Mazzoli, (D-Ky.), sponsors of last session's immigration reform package that passed both houses but never got out of conference committee, are expected to offer some sort of immigration reform bill once again.

Continued next page

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Demography or demographics, that is the question.

The standard definition of *demography* is usually something like "the statistical study of human populations"; while *demographics*, according to *Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary*, is "the statistical characteristics of human populations . . . *used especially to identify markets.*" (Our italics.)

But demography is also used to refer to "statistical characteristics"—*The Demography of the Dobe !Kung* (1979) by Nancy Howell, to cite one example. So the difference between demography and demographics may come down to atmosphere (or atmospherics). You would never hear a network executive talk about "the demography of *Magnum PI's* audience," after all.

So from here on out—let *demography* refer to statistical characteristics when discussed in an academic or research setting, and let *demographics* refer to statistical characteristics when discussed in a commercial, advertising, or consultantcy setting.

By the way—Kathy Doherty of Merriam-Webster, Inc., has kindly informed us that the first recorded use of *demography* appearing in M-W's authoritative citation files was in the *Library of Universal Knowledge* (1880). By contrast (and this should tell you something), their first record of the term *demographics* comes from *One Hundred Basic Media Terms* (1966), published by the redoubtable New York ad agency Batten, Barton, Durstine, & Osborn (BBD&O).

—Art Haupt

Immigration Reform

Continued from preceding page

The thrust of the new bill is still unclear.

Rep. Edward Roybal (D-Calif.), author of the alternative immigration bill put forward by the Hispanic caucus last session, introduced a new bill, HR 30, early in January. Unlike his last bill, HR 30 contains sanctions against employers who knowingly hire undocumented workers. Recordkeeping would be required of only those employers who have shown a pattern of hiring undocumented workers, and the bill prohibits a national ID card system. It would grant amnesty to workers who have been in the United States since Jan. 1, 1982. The bill would set up mechanisms to offer legal recourse to individual workers who believe they have been harmed by the hiring of undocumented workers and mechanisms to protect the civil rights of all U.S. residents against employment-related discrimination based on national origin or citizenship status.

Supporters of strict immigration controls find the employer sanctions in the Roybal bill "weak and unverifiable." They acknowledge, however, that the bill is a step toward a simplified compromise proposal. □

SURVEY REPORT

Nigeria WFS

Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation with an estimated 90 million people, has made available the results of its World Fertility Survey taken in 1981-1982. The survey reveals a rather high level of fertility, and even higher average number of desired children.

The country's total fertility rate (TFR) was 6.34 children for all women on average, and 7.48 for ever-married women. The average number of children desired was about 8.3. Women who had had 9 or more children were interested in having a total of 13 children, whereas women with no children expressed a desire for 7.4 children, eventually.

WHO photo

Nigerian girl drinks at public fountain.

Contraceptive use in Nigeria is negligible. 84.9 percent of women interviewed had never used any type of contraception, though 33.6 percent had heard of one method of contraception or another. Abstinence tops the list of specific methods used; 12.1 percent of the women have used it and 19.4 percent have heard of it. The pill, with 1.8 percent of the women reporting they had used it and 13.4 percent having heard of it, runs a distant second to abstinence. Not surprisingly, educated and urban women are more likely to have heard of and used contraceptive methods.

The disparity between the number of children desired and the average number of children women are having, coupled with the low contraceptive prevalence, suggests that noncontraceptive factors affect fertility. These include abstinence from intercourse following a birth, extensive breastfeeding, postpartum amenorrhoea, and marital instability. In terms of fecundity, the potential to have children, 80.3 percent of the women interviewed considered themselves fecund.

By the age of 34, 99.0 percent of Nigerian women interviewed had been married. Age at first marriage, an important factor in fertility levels, is low in Nigeria, where 51.8 percent of ever-married women interviewed had been married by their 16th birthday. □

AID Funding of UNFPA Uncertain

Some $23 million in UN population assistance has been postponed by the U.S. Agency for International Development, pending a "careful review" of concerns about possible coerciveness in China's population program. The review is expected to take several weeks.

Continued on next page

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The aid is earmarked for the UN Fund for Population Activities and represents the U.S.'s 1985 aid to the UN agency. UNFPA in turn gives population aid to many countries, including China, though the agency takes pains to point out that none aid goes to coercive family planning or abortion.

The U.S.'s fresh concern was reportedly sparked at least in part by the recent *Washington Post* series on China's one-child family program. Population people appear unfazed, at least so far, by the U.S. Government's action, in anticipation of the funds eventually being unfrozen. But the incident, following the denial of funds to the International Planned Parenthood Federation, sends a signal that the U.S. is continuing to use overseas funding as a means of expressing its opinion about abortion and other population-policy issues. □

Canada Count ~~Off~~ On

The slim ranks of countries which take censuses every five years almost became thinner with Finance Minister Michael Wilson's announcement that the 1986 Census of Canada would be a casualty of fiscal austerity. However, the $100 million quinquennial count is back on track again. The census will provide detailed data on Canada's minority, handicapped, and native populations for the first time.

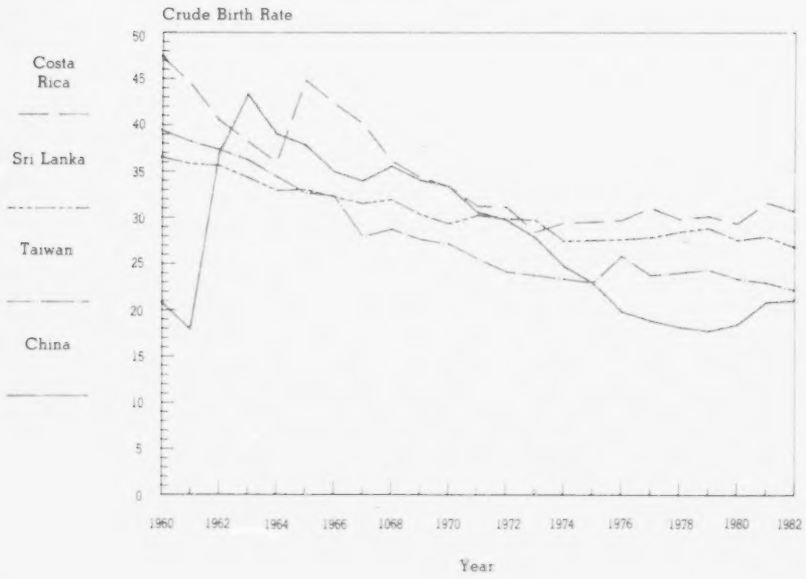
Proponents of the census point out that, lacking a national count, many provinces would still need the data for planning purposes and take their own. This could have led to potentially greater census-taking expense and result in a quagmire of noncomparable data. The *Toronto Star* pointed out that the U.S. takes a census only every 10 years, and as a partial result "lost" some 5 million people, who were then "found" during the U.S. 1980 census. (A five-year census planned for the U.S. in 1985 died in a budget cut long ago.)

The sudden reinstatement of the census has caught Canada's census-taking agency, Statistics Canada, short of employees, as many were transferred following the original cancellation. But the entire incident illustrates a current irony: Censuses have fallen on hard times in a number of industrialized countries (delayed in West Germany, canceled in the Netherlands) at the very time many less developed countries are increasing their census- and statistics-gathering activities. □

SPEAKING GRAPHICALLY

CRUDE BIRTH RATES: SELECTED COUNTRIES

1960-1982



The concept of the "fertility decline slowdown" is one which is getting increasing attention in population circles. Quite a few countries which have had remarkable fertility declines throughout the early stages of their population programs now evidence distinct slowdowns in that decline. The crude birth rates of the four countries above give a definite impression of relatively stationary fertility after a period of decrease. Is this a temporary phenomenon? Or does it signal a very long and protracted decline to the two-child family? Only time will tell.

CORRECTION

Editing errors were the cause for two misstatements that appeared in the translation of "Quebec: The Empty Cradle," by Andre Lux, which was published in the December 1984 *PT*.

Quebec Province has a double school system (French and English), not an exclusively French one; the 1982 referendum was a vote whether to negotiate secession with the federal government and was defeated by a 60-percent-to-40-percent margin, not "narrowly." *PT* regrets the errors. □

Demographer's Page

Continued from page 1

structure, (a little less certainly) the future mortality, and also (to some extent) future fertility and net immigration.

The Demographic Iceberg

It is widely known tht the U.S. population is aging. Many people believe that the result of this aging trend will be a steadily increasing ratio of those aged 65 and over to those aged 20-64. And it is assumed that the Social Security system is on a collision course with this "demographic iceberg."

But such an increase will not occur for a while. This ratio is currently 20.2 percent. During the next 25 years it will rise slowly, reaching 22.9 percent in 2010, according to the cost projections underlying the OASDI program.[2] This is a very small rise.

In the 25 years following that, however, the ratio will increase markedly as the baby boom generation reaches retirement age—to 39.5 percent in 2035. Thereafter, the ratio is projected to remain relatively constant. So the ultimate level of the ratio will be almost double the current one—hence the alarm about OASDI.

Under the 1983 Social Security amendments, the Normal Retirement Age* under OASDI was increased from 65 to 67 years, on a deferred, gradual basis. This new retirement age will become effective in 2027, for those who reach 67 in that year. The ultimate ratio of those aged 67 and over to those aged 20-66 is projected to be 34.5 percent – still high, but lower than if the Normal Retirement Age had not been raised.

The Cost Picture

Because of these demographic trends, the ratio of workers to beneficiaries under OASDI will decline precipitously over the next 50 years, a change that has garnered considerable publicity. According to the intermediate-cost estimate (Alternative II-B) in the 1984 Trustees Report,[3] this ratio will drop from the present 3.4 workers for every beneficiary, to 2.0 in 2035 and after (Once again, in the next 25 years the decline will be only slight—the ratio for 2010 being 3.1. This decline will be most rapid after 2010.)

The foregoing ratios are somewhat deceptive, because active workers are compared with total beneficiaries, including auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries. A more meaningful ratio is the comparison of active workers with retired and disabled workers. On this basis, the ratio is 5.0 active workers to one retired and disabled workers currently and 2.2 ultimately.

The "burden" of OASDI on the working population is perhaps best considered by viewing the outgo as a percentage of taxable payroll assuming the provisions of the law remain unchanged. According to the intermediate-cost estimate,[4] the outgo percentage is 11.15 percent in 1985, with 15.45 percent projected in 2060—a relative increase of somewhat over one-third.

Once again, the increase will not be steady. Rather, for the next 20 years, the outgo percentage will actually decrease, to a minimum of 9.94 percent of taxable payroll. But following 2005, a steady and spectacular increase will occur, until by 2035 outgo reaches an ultimate level of about 15¼ percent.

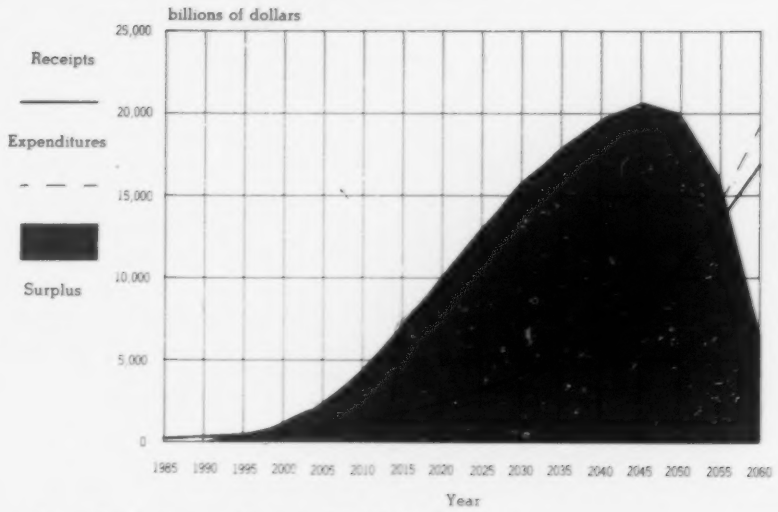
The Coming (Temporary) Surplus

Contrary to popular belief, OASDI is not financed on a current-cost, or pay-as-you-go, basis (under which income and outgo are roughly in balance each year, and only a relatively small contingency fund is maintained). True, such a situation has existed in practice during the last 20 years, on a de facto basis. But it will not be the case after the 1980s if present law remains as it was in 1983 and if the intermediate-cost estimate comes to pass.

The reason is that the 1983 amendments called for the tax rate applicable to OASDI to increase sharply in 1988 and 1990, and be level thereafter.* During the period 1990-2020, the tax rate schedule will be well above the curve of the cost rates; after 2020 it will drop below it. (Under a true current-cost basis, the schedule would follow the curve of the cost rates.)

Thus, the theory for financing OASDI is to build up a large fund in 2010-2020 (which will be as much as five times annual benefit outgo) and then liquidate it to meet the excess of outgo over income in subsequent years. The result will be that the fund becomes exhausted at the end of the 75-year valuation period. Subsequently, the tax rate will be inadequate to meet the outgo unless, for the employ-

SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUND



Source. Intermediate-cost estimate Alternative II-B, 1984 Trustees Report.

*The age at which unreduced benefits are first available.

*The combined employer-employee tax rate for 1985-1987 is 11.4 percent. It increases to 12.12 percent for 1988-1989 and to 12.4 percent for 1990 and after.

er and employee combined, it is increased by slightly more than 2 percent of payroll.

(See the graph on page 6, which is based upon the Alternative II-B estimate, and which shows the OASDI fund peaking at $20.7 trillion around 2045.)

A Possible Solution

In summary: OASDI's financing problem is that large trust fund balances, conceivably absorbing a significant proportion of the economy's entire money supply, will be accumulated in the 1990s and the following two decades if experience follows the intermediate-cost projections.

No major structural changes should be made in OASDI for the next few years, especially as to its financing basis, until more financial experience has occurred. It now appears quite certain that the program will be adequately financed during the 1980s, and the OASDI Trust Funds will be able to repay the loan from the HI Trust Fund which was needed in 1982* and build up an adequate contingency reserve.

Tax rates in the 1990s and early 2000s, however, are apparently too high and will result in the build-up of too large a fund. This build-up should be prevented by an automatic-adjustment procedure that will lower the tax rates when the fund balance exceeds 50-60 percent of annual outgo—and which will increase the tax rates when the fund balance falls somewhere under this range.

References

1. U.S. Congress, 1984 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance Trust Funds. (House Document 98-200) April 5, 1984. p. 73.
2. Social Security Administration, Social Security Area Population Projections, 1984. (Actuarial Study No. 92) May 1984.
3. U.S. Congress, op. cit., p. 73.
4. Ibid., p. 72.

*Such loan was $12.4 billion. In January 1985, $1.8 billion was repaid, and the remainder is expected to be repaid with the next two years (with appropriate interest).

30 Million May Have Died In China's 1958-1961 Famine

A demographic catastrophe of very dramatic proportions—perhaps the most serious human disaster in history—occurred in China during 1958-1962, according to newly released data. Prior to 1981, few demographic data about China were available, but since then such data have been flowing out of China. These data provide a basis for constructing heretofore incalculable estimates for the entire period back to the establishment of the People's Republic. According to "Famine in China, 1958-61" an article in the December 1984 *Population and Development Review*, vol. 10, no. 4 by Basil Ashton, Kenneth Hill, Alan Piazza, and Robin Zeitz, that widespread famine was the cause of the demographic disaster.

Vital Rates for China 1955-1964

Year	Year-end population (millions)	Birth rate	Death rate
1955	614.7	32.6	12.3
1956	628.3	31.9	11.4
1957	646.5	34.0	10.8
1958	659.9	29.2	12.0
1959	672.1	24.8	14.6
1960	662.1	20.9	25.4
1961	658.6	18.0	14.2
1962	672.9	37.0	10.0
1963	691.7	43.4	10.0
1964	705.0	39.1	11.5

Source. Basil Ashton et al., "Famine in China 1958-61." *Population and Development Review*, December 1984.

China has lived in the shadow of famines for centuries. Until the famine of 1958-1961, the worst one in human history occurred in China in 1876-1879. That one, the result of drought, is estimated to have caused between 9.5 and 13 million deaths. The more recent famine, by contrast, appears to have been the result not of drought but of a massive food shortage, a result of a drastic and prolonged decline in grain output. In 1960, for example, per capita availability of food energy in China was 1,500 calories a day (lower, even, than today's Ethiopia, where an estimated 1,735 calories are available per day).

Not only did an estimated 30 million premature deaths occur in China during 1958-1962 (approximately 17.3 million over age 10 and 12.2 million under age 10), but fertility rates were significantly affected as well. The number of births during those years was about 33 million short of the number that would have been expected, based on fertility and mortality trends for more normal years. [For a graphic example of these birth trends, see Speaking Graphically, p. 5 this issue and in the March 1984 *PT*.]

In late 1959, China's leaders recognized the severity of the food crisis, and in 1960, they began taking steps to alleviate it. Not until 1961 did the famine receive any recognition from the outside world. Indeed, its magnitude was virtually unknown until recently. There were no drives for famine relief from international organizations or governments. No international effort whatsoever was attempted, for China's leaders did what they could to keep their country's misery a secret.

The causes of the 1958-1961 famine? Poor agricultural policy was a major factor in the creation of the famine. The People's Communes of the Great Leap Forward reduced farmer's incentives for production and complicated administrative tasks, resulting in reduced agricultural production. Statistics hailing the record food crop of 1958 were exaggerated so that planning for the 1959 crops was based on poor information. In addition, the government's urbanization policy resulted in rapid urban migration and contributed to disarray in China, leading to food procurement problems.

Numerous Chinese reports of natural calamities indicate that severe crop damage in 1959 and 1960 added to the intensity of the agricultural crisis. Nevertheless, China did not begin major grain imports until 1961.

Now that data are available and experts can reconstruct the calamity of those years, it seems incredible that a disaster of such scale went unnoticed by the rest of the world. Ashton et al. conclude that "the tragedy of this famine is that internal food redistribution was obviously limited and major international relief was never attempted. It would not be inaccurate to say that 30 million people died prematurely as a result of errors of internal policies and flawed international relations."□

Population, Environment in Conflict; Worldwatch Cites Problems

The interaction between population and the environment is becoming increasingly destructive as the pressures of the human race on the world's natural support systems are now capable of causing serious continental and even global changes, according to *State of the World 1985,* the second annual survey by the Worldwatch Institute about the interrelationships between humans and the earth's natural systems.

Famine-stricken Africa is a tragic example of man versus nature, according to Worldwatch president, Lester R. Brown, who states that "as recently as 1970, Africa was essentially self-sufficient in food." Brown claims that the food crisis is the result of exceedingly rapid population growth, widespread soil erosion, and the neglect of agriculture by African governments.

The Worldwatch study, researched and written by Brown and his staff, found no developments in prospect on either the agricultural or family planning side of the food/population equation that will arrest Africa's slide in per capita food production. Brown warned that unless steps are taken to boost agriculture and slow population growth, the crisis in Africa will continue to deepen.

Brown sees far-reaching effects of rapid population growth which do not usually pop to mind: reduced rainfall, for example. In some regions of the world (most notably Africa) the demands of a growing population have led to deforestation or overgrazing, thus reducing vegetation. "As vegetation is reduced . . . the share of rainfall running off directly to the ocean increases. Less rainfall evaporates into the atmosphere to recharge rain clouds that move inland," Brown says. Less rainfall is a prospect of potentially disastrous proportions.

But Worldwatch's news isn't all bad. China's food situation contrasts dramatically with that of Africa. The report found "broad gains on the food front" for China, whose per capita grain production has risen 30 percent since 1970. The report attributes the nation's success to its halving of population growth rates since 1970 and to the launching of extensive agricultural reforms. With these gains, the report notes, China could endure two consecutive poor harvests without experiencing widespread hunger or malnutrition.

The industrial countries are affecting natural systems as well, the report found, with acid rain and pollution greatly contributing to the loss of forests in central Europe. In addition, increasing levels of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" released to the atmosphere are likely to cause climatic shifts that could disrupt food production, reduce dependable water supplies, and eventually jeopardize coastal cities and towns.

The report places some emphasis on energy. It notes that new innovations in renewable energy, as well as conservation measures, are imperative for the sake of future energy consumers. This is, however, one area where some progress has been made.

Brown calls for a thorough overhauling of agricultural, energy, and population policies, aimed at managing resources on a sustainable basis. He predicts that many Third World countries will be forced to adopt one-child family policies much like those of China, as a result of dwindling forests, eroding soils, and falling water tables. Essential to this overhaul, according to Brown, is "a realization that our security and future well-being may be threatened less by the conflicts among nations than they are by the deteriorating relationship between ourselves, soon to be five billion, and the natural systems and resources that sustain us." □

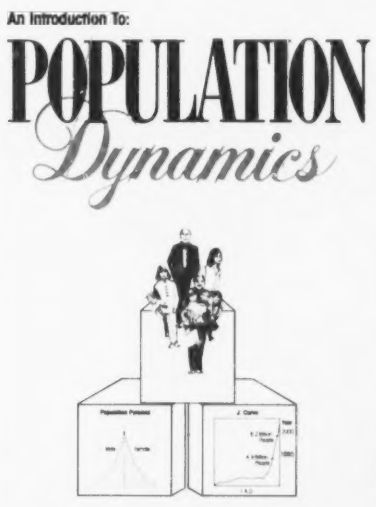
Copies of *State of the World 1985,* by Lester R. Brown and William U. Chandler, Christopher Flavin, Cynthia Pollock, Sandra Postel, Linda Starke, and Edward C. Wolf are available from PRB at a special price of $6.00 for PRB members. The cost to non-members is $8.95. Orders and checks (made payable to PRB) should be sent to: PRB, Circulation Dept., P.O. Box 35012, Washington, D.C., 20013.

New PRB Kit Available to Teachers

PRB has just released a new teaching kit, "An Introduction to Population Dynamics." The kit contains the *World Population: Fundamentals of Growth* student chartbook and six wall charts illustrating the components of population growth and change, a teacher's guide with student study questions, and the *World Population Data Sheet*.

In other words, the kit contains everything a high school or college teacher would need for a short lesson on population dynamics or for supplementary materials in a longer unit. It is designed to help teachers help their students understand population concepts, build important skills, analyze population trends, and increase their vocabulary.

"An Introduction to Population Dynamics" costs $17.50, but a special introductory discount of 20 percent is available to PRB members and *Population Today* readers who order kits before April 1. Send check for $14.00 per kit with a $1.00 shipping/handling charge if your order is less than $20.00 to PRB, P.O. Box 35012, Washington, D.C. 20013. Don't forget to indicate that you're a *PT* reader to receive the discount. □



THE POPULATION REFERENCE BUREAU TEACHING KIT

WORLD FOOD NEWS

The fight against famine now gripping much of the African continent is being aided by a little-known worldwide intelligence system operated by FAO.

From FAO's Rome headquarters, the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture monitors the status of African food cereals by analyzing production, utilization, stocks, and commercial imports. Analyzing this information, the FAO is able to estimate how much food aid each country will need until its next main harvest comes in. (The System now lists 21 African nations as facing exceptional food supply problems for 1984-1985.)

About 100 nations now participate in the Early Warning System. It was created after the 1974 World Food Conference cited the need for a continuous flow of up-to-date information on prospects for the basic world food supply to inform the U.S. and other food donor countries and operational relief agencies. The U.S. supplies about 60 percent of world food donations on average. □

World Food News is prepared by the North American Liaison Office of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Population and Development Under Scrutiny

Population growth affects development, but how? In January 1985, the UN Fund for Population Activities sponsored an expert group meeting on population and development planning.

Representatives of some 10 countries and UN experts met at UN headquarters in New York. They were following up on an earlier seminar (held in September 1983) that had laid out the problem: How to incorporate population considerations into economic and social development.

The results of the January meeting, according to observers, were variable. The reports differed widely in approach and content, with some countries detailing the effects of their population programs, while others frankly admitted that population consciousness in both the public at large and economic planners in particular was very low. One conclusion: Economic planners should be trained in population dynamics at the earliest possible stage.

A detailed account of the meeting—the report of UNFPA Expert Group Meeting on Population and Development Planning—is expected in the Spring of 1985. □

Surprise Soviet 'Census' Conducted

The USSR has taken a major demographic survey during January 1985, according to the *New York Times*. Although the demographic situation has generally not been given much public attention, recent trends appear to be causing some official concern.

One concern is that the lower birth rate of ethnic Russians compared to Asian and Moslem minorities will soon cause Russians and other Slavic peoples to account for less than half of the total population. In that connection, the survey questioned 5 percent of the Soviet population on the number of children planned, age at marriage, and reasons for divorce. Another apparent purpose of the survey was to identify who might be usefully employed in the light of increasing labor force shortages. This issue is also affected by the fact that increasing proportions of labor force entrants and draft-age cohorts are not Russian-speaking. □

Population Update

Estimated United States Population:

As of October 1, 1984	237,267,000
As of October 1, 1983	235,122,000

The above estimates include armed forces overseas and are from U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 961.

Estimated World Population:

As of March 1985	4,817,000,000
Annual Growth	82,000,000

Estimated by extrapolation of the mid-1984 population given on the 1984 World Population Data Sheet.

Latest Provisional Statistics for the U.S.: October 1984

Item	12 months ending with October: Number 1984	Number 1983	Rate 1984	Rate 1983	Rate 1982	Rate 1981
Live births	3,663,000	3,658,000	15.5	15.7	15.9	15.9
Deaths	2,033,000	2,008,000	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.7
Natural increase	1,630,000	1,650,000	6.9	7.1	7.3	7.2
Marriages	2,473,000	2,442,000	10.5	10.5	10.8	10.6
Divorces	1,160,000	1,182,000	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.3
Infant deaths	38,600	40,100	10.5	11.0	11.4	11.8
Population base (in millions)	...	...	235.8	233.4	231.1	228.9

Note. Rates are given per 1,000 population, except for infant deaths, which are given per 1,000 live births. Rates are based on revised population estimates from the 1980 Census.

Source. Monthly Vital Statistics Report (Vol. 33, No. 10) from the National Center for Health Statistics.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In reference to the article "O Little Town of Noel" in the December 1984 *Population Today*, there is a town called Santa Claus in southern Indiana. I do not know what its status is with respect to incorporation, but when I visited there about 20 years ago, it was probably somewhat larger than Christmas, Mich.

Sincerely,
Richard D. Wright
Professor and Head,
Dept. of Sociology,
Northern Michigan University

POSITIONS/ PROFESSIONALS

Assistant Director, Association for Voluntary Sterilization, Inc., to serve in International Programs—Asia Regional Office (Dhaka, Bangladesh) and be responsible for grants and technical assistant programs in the region. Qualifications: graduate degree and 5 years minimum relevant experience. Salary: $28,174-$32,543. Contact: Marilyn Riedlinger, Personnel Officer, AVS, 122 East 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10168.

Overseas Internship Positions (limited in number) are being offered by the Center for Population and Family Health of Columbia University. The two-year Internships are designed for entry-level and mid-career health professionals seeking experience in international health and family planning. Qualifications: Masters in public health or equivalent. Salary: moderate, with travel expenses. Contact: Dr. D. Lauro, the Center for Population and Family Health, Columbia University, 60 Haven Ave., B-3, New York, N.Y. 10032. (Columbia University is an equal opportunity employer.)

TAKE A NUMBER...

Metro Muddle: Not really a muddle, but some have expressed stupefaction at the new method of classifying metropolitan areas in U.S. The Office of Management and Budget rethought just who's metropolitan and who isn't so that metro areas would more reasonably represent new geographic patterns of residence. In a future issue, *PT* will offer a simplified explanation of the new areas—gone are the familiar SMSAs, replaced by MSAs, PMSAs, and CMSAs. While probably not as traumatic as the breakup of AT&T, the new definitions are imposing at first glance. The Census Bureau has helped recently in one way, by reworking 1980 Census counts and publishing them in *1980 Census, Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Supplementary Report, PC80-S1-18*. This useful update lists the MSAs from Abilene to Yuba City and gives data from the "short form" in the 1980 Census on population, housing units, race and Spanish origin, vacancy rates, and persons per household. A subsequent report will give "sample" data on a wide range of social and economic characteristics.

70 Million: That's the population number targeted by a government committee in Malaysia in connection with the country's recent about-face on the policy on population growth. The government now wishes to encourage growth from the present 15 million to an ultimate population of 70 million. There are plans to review tax and maternity leave provisions which discourage large families and to adopt policies which would generally raise fertility. In 1980, women in Peninsular Malaysia averaged about 4 children each, but the national measure would probably be somewhat higher if good data were also available for Sabah and Sarawak. The 70 million target is a little more than twice as high as the most recent World Bank projection of ultimate population size for Malaysia, 33 million, a projection which assumes that the country would reach the two-child family by 2005-2010.

Here and There... The 1983 Census of Israel counted 4,037,620 population, 3,349,997 of whom were Jews... from the just-available 1983 Contraceptive Prevalence Survey of Bangladesh: 13.8 percent of married women were using a modern family planning method with tubectomy accounting for nearly half; an additional 5.4 percent were using a traditional method such as abstinence or rhythm...the fertility of women in the Maldives has been measured in a recent survey, which portrays high fertility in the islands. Women 25-29 had 5.1 children on average and those 40-44, 7.0; of the latter, only 4.4 children were actually surviving at the time of the interview and the women gave 3.2 as their "preferred" number of offspring...rising unemployment is said to be a major cause of the decline in the birth rate in Finland. The Finnish IPPF affiliate said that the country's population may drop from the present 4.8 million to 3.5 million by 2050...also in Finland, the 1982 reported infant mortality rate of 6.0 infant deaths per 1,000 live births gives that country the world's lowest rate, with Japan in second place with 6.2, and Sweden third with 6.8. Where does the U.S. stand? 15th in 1982...

...addenda

Contraceptive dog food, containing the hormone mibolerone, will be marketed sometime in 1985. According to the maker, Carnation, the food works on female dogs by preventing estrus, without adversely affecting male dogs who happen to scarf it down. It will be sold in cans under the brand name Extra Care in at least three flavors...(News item)

CURRENT READINGS

PRB welcomes materials on population topics for possible inclusion in Current Readings. Publishers may address review copies to Book Review Editor, POPULATION TODAY, Population Reference Bureau, 2213 M St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

DISEASE AND FERTILITY, by Joseph A. McFalls, Jr., and Marguerite Harvey McFalls. New York: Academic Press, 1984. 593 pages. $69.50. ISBN 0-12-483380-2.

Though subfecundity—the reduced capacity to produce a live birth—is a "major determinant of individual and population fertility," population students have focused more on its measurement than its causes. This book is the third product of Temple University demographer Joseph McFalls's monumental and valuable research undertaken to remedy this situation. Following up on McFalls's 1979 *Population Bulletin* "Frustrated Fertility" and a monograph on *Psychopathology and Subfucundity*, the McFalls book deals with disease as "by far the most devastating" of the five factors capable of depressing fecundity (the others being genetics, psychopathology, nutrition, and the environment.)

The authors describe in exhaustive yet readable detail all aspects of the major diseases capable of causing problems with intercourse and conception and pregnancy loss. These include nonsexually transmitted diseases such as genital tuberculosis, malaria, and schistosomiasis that are rampant in the developing world, especially Africa; sexually transmitted diseases, many of which like herpes, gonorrhea, and chlamydia are now epidemic in the U.S.; and factors such as the IUD that can cause pelvic inflammatory disease. The result is a fascinating and important resource for all concerned with human fertility.

—Jean van der Tak

IMMIGRATION POLICY AND THE AMERICAN LABOR FORCE, by Vernon M. Briggs, Jr. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 1984. 294 pages. $26.50. ISBN 0-8018-3168-7

Rarely does a book's title suggest that the coverage is less than it actually is. Such is the case with Briggs's excellent book.

Immigration Policy is not an economic treatise dealing solely with the arguments pro and con as to the effects of immigration on the labor force of the U.S. It deals with this controversial issue in some depth, but considers most other immigration topics as well.

Immigration policy is traced back to the founding fathers, culminating with the current, chaotic situation in this country. The history of the immigration movement to the U.S. is also discussed in some depth.

The 19th and 20th century Mexican situation and its relationship with the United States is admirably told. Whenever possible, policy comparisons are made with other receiving countries. Entire chapters deal with such contemporary issues as illegal immigration and refugees. The final chapter concentrates on the current situation and here Briggs makes some important and relevant suggestions for the necessary development of a U.S. policy.

Throughout the text Briggs is concerned with the impact that immigration has on the economy. His concluding words are worthy of repetition: "In sum, U.S. immigration policy needs to be synchronized with all other policies that are designed to accomplish full employment, strengthen the domestic economy, and enhance the development of the nation's human resources. A liberal and non-discriminatory immigration policy should continue to be a hallmark of American society, but that policy must truly contribute to —not contravene— the nation's economic interest."

For anyone interested not only in the economic dimensions of this issue but in the history of U.S. immigration and immigration policy, this is a must book. Well written, concise, and easily understandable.

—Leon F. Bouvier

THE POPULATION BOMB: A Matter of Human Beings, by the staff of the Omaha World-Herald (address: World-Herald Square, Omaha, Neb. 68102). A 28-page reprint of the World-Herald's 8-part series published Sept. 23-30, 1984. 50¢ ea. postpaid (bulk rates on request).

This special publication from the *Omaha World-Herald* covers a wide spectrum of world population-growth issues, including urbanization, child abandonment, migration, food, policy issues, and family planning. To prepare it, three of the paper's staff fanned out over Latin America (the region is emphasized in the series), and the result is a collection of fresh and up-to-date data, quotations, vignettes, and analyses. The series calls the population explosion "one of the most significant and underreported stories of our time," and the *World-Herald* can be proud of its achievement in making that story better known and understood.

—Arthur Haupt

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

AMERICA'S NEW IMMIGRATION LAW: Origins, Rationales, and Potential Consquences, edited by Wayne Cornelius and Ricardo Anzaldua Montoya. LaJolla, Calif.: Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, Univ. of Calif., San Diego, 1983. 182 pages.

CHANGES IN THE LIFESTYLES OF NEW PARENTS, by Gus W. Haggstrom, Linda J. Waite, et al. Santa Monica, Calif.: Rand Corporation, 1984. 191 pages.

EUROPEAN MARKETING DATA AND STATISTICS 1984 (20th Edition), by Euromonitor Publications Limited. Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research Company, 1984. 353 pages.

INTERNATIONAL FORUM OF AFRICAN WOMEN LEADERS ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (May 15-18, 1984). Conference Summary. UN Fund for Population Activities, 1985.

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS: 1980 Census of Population (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget in 1983), by the Bureau of the Census. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, 1984. 188 pages.

THE POLITICS OF RETURN: International Return Migration in Europe, edited by Daniel Kubat. New York: Center for Migration Studies, 1983. 369 pages. $12.95

PREGNANCY AFTER THIRTY, by Mary Anderson. London: Faber and Faber, 1984. 124 pages. $7.95.

THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 1985, by James P. Grant. New York: UNICEF, 1985. 78 pages.

STATISTICAL YEARBOOK 1984, by UNESCO. Paris: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 1984.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE UNITED STATES 1980: Vol. I-Natality, by the National Center for Health Statistics. Hyattsville, Md.: U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, 1984. 430 pages.

WOMEN IN THIRD WORLD DEVELOPMENT, by Sue Ellen M. Charlton. Boulder, Co.: Westview Press, 1984. 240 pages. $30.00 hardcover; $11.95 paper.

SPOTLIGHT

NEVADA

Population, 1984 (est.): 944,615
Births per 1,000 pop. (1981): 16.7
Deaths per 1,000 pop. (1981): 7.0
Land area: 110,600 sq. miles
Percent of population aged 65 and over (1983): 9.1
Percent of population aged 18 and under (1983): 25.7
Population rank (1983/1960): 43/49
Percent born in Nevada now residing there (1980): 21

The bright lights of Las Vegas dominate the popular impression of Nevada, but there is far more to the "Silver State," nicknamed after the Comstock Lode which encouraged settlers to come in droves to the state. Nevada is the seventh largest state in area, ranking 43rd in population. Native Americans, East Asians, and Basque sheepherders constitute Nevada's principal ethnic groups. About 6.4 percent of Nevada's total population is black, of which 92 percent live in Clark County/Las Vegas, while the rest are scattered sparsely.

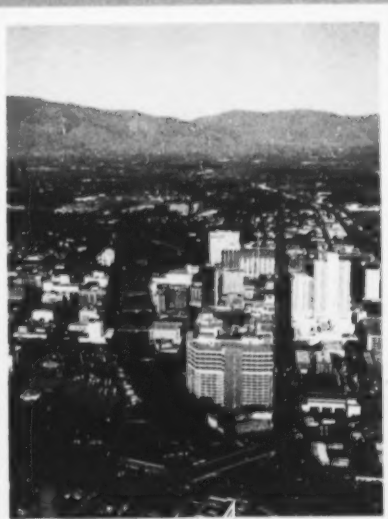
Nevada's population and economic activity are concentrated in Las Vegas (Clark County), Reno-Sparks (Washoe County), and Douglas County/Carson City. In July 1983, 58.3 percent of the state's total population lived in Clark County, and 23.2 percent in Washoe. Jobs in Clark County accounted for 56.0 percent of all employment in Nevada; jobs in Reno-Sparks, 27.7 percent.

The state population, estimated at 944,615 in 1984, is expected to grow at a rate of 4.2 percent per year from 1985 to 1990. The population of Douglas County/Carson City is expected to increase by a hefty 5.3 percent. Despite some concern about the environment, current political structure supports population and economic growth. Nevada grew by 63 percent from 1970 to 1980, and the U.S. Bureau of the Census projects the state will maintain the highest growth rate of any state during the next 20 years. During the 1970s, high national unemployment, if anything, stimulated migration to Nevada.

Nevada's political system is highly conservative: The main public issue is the degree to which government can minimize its role in the state economy. Nevada's tax haven characteristics (no personal or corporate income tax) have attracted wealthy individuals and high-tech corporations to the state.

There are many attractive retirement locations in Nevada; like other Sun Belt states, Nevada receives inmigrants as a result of the aging of the U.S. population. In addition, the state has untapped mineral and geothermal resources that could spur very rapid growth in certain areas.

Nevada has the least diversified state economy in the country. Gaming and tourist-related services form the base for economic activity, with mining and agriculture dominating some rural areas. Gaming is the single most important source of tax revenues. The reliance of gaming on computerized credit records was in part responsible for Nevada's being the 23rd state to pass a computer-related act. Nevada's act provides protection from computer piracy and unauthorized access to records. This act was an important step in encouraging high-tech industry to settle in northern Nevada. Service and recreation-related jobs account for 40 percent of employment, compared to 20 percent for the U.S. as a whole.



Reno, Nevada.

Nevada's market share of gaming is decreasing because of competition from Atlantic City and fewer restrictions on gambling throughout the U.S. As the gaming industry matures, it is experiencing slower growth; the gaming sector as an employer has in large part been responsible for the forecasts of rapid population growth and these forecasts must be adjusted downward to account for the slower rise in gaming.

Income per capita is $11,981 annually, varying from about $13,740 in Washoe County to $8,299 in Storey County. Conditions in mining areas are depressed because of declining world prices for gold, barite, and copper. Mining-dependent areas are trying to diversify, just as the three major economic areas are trying to move away from gaming.

Government spending on social services is low, which may become a problem as more older people move to Nevada. The U.S. Dept. of Education ranks Nevada 51st in the nation in money spent for education on grades K-12. Educators fear that this minimal spending will be a serious obstacle to economic diversification.

Population is a determining factor in what is perhaps one of Nevada's most notorious singularities: legal prostitution. The legality of prostitution is decided by each local government, though it is banned by state law in counties whose population is greater than 250,000 people (a level currently exceeded only by Clark County).

Nevada is also known for its relatively relaxed marriage and divorce laws. Marriage/divorce statistics reflect this: The marriage rate in the U.S. was 10.6 marriages per 1,000 population in 1981; the marriage rate in Nevada that year was 119.9 per 1,000 state inhabitants, i.e., over one marriage for every 10 Nevadans, due of course to transient outriders coming in to tie the knot. The divorce rate, meanwhile, was 17.6 divorces per 1,000 state inhabitants, compared to a national rate of 5.3.□